Message Text

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EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: EARLE/SEMENOV PRIVATE MEETING, MAY 5, 1978
(SALT TWO-1722)

REF: SALT TWO 1723

- 1. AT PRIVATE MEETING MAY 5 SEMENOV GAVE ME REVISED TEXT FOR THIRD AND FOURTH SECTIONS OF JOINT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES (REFTEL). REVISED PROPOSALS ARE SUBSTANTIALLY MORE GENERAL; THIRD SECTION CALLS FOR "SUBSTANTIAL" ("SUSHCHESTVENNIYE") REDUCTIONS OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, DELETES EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO FBS, BUT RETAINS MENTION OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS. REVISED FOURTH SECTION INCLUDES REFERENCE TO FREEDOM TO RAISE ANY QUESTION RE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE REPEAT OFFENSIVE ARMS.
- 2. SEMENOV SAID SIDES WERE FUNDAMENTALLY AGREED ON SECTIONS 1 AND 2, AND CLOSE ON SECTION 3, AND CITED DECISION IN MOSCOW TO FORMULATE BROAD, GENERAL PRINCIPLES. CONSECRET

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CERNING UNAGREED PORTION OF FIRST SECTION, HE SAID REFERENCE TO STRATEGIC STABILITY WAS SUFFICIENT, PARTICULARLY IN CONNECTION WITH "MOST DESTABILIZING" ARMS, AND SAID ONE SIDE SHOULD NOT TRY TO IMPOSE ITS CONCEPTS ON THE OTHER. CONCERNING SECOND SECTION ON VERIFICATION, HE SAID AGREED PORTION WAS SUFFICIENT AND CONSISTENT WITH OUR GOALS.

- 3. I SAID SOVIET PROPOSALS WOULD BE CAREFULLY STUDIED AND WITHHELD SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT.
- 4. SEMENOV REQUESTED PRIVATE MEETING FOR MONDAY, MAY 8, AT WHICH TIME HE EXPECTED TO HAVE NEW PROPOSALS ON HEAVY BOMBERS. EARLE

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